

business. But as he was going out (it might be to wait upon King Pharaoh) he ordered them to wait upon him again at noon. However, before he departed, he desired his steward, to get ready a splendid feast by his return, as he intended these men should dine with him. Now Simon was released from his imprisonment, and brought with the rest of his brethren into Joseph's house. But even this filled them with fears, and fresh distress; for they now certainly thought, that by his taking so much notice of them, he intended to apprehend them on account of taking back their money the last time in their sacks. Therefore they determined to break this matter first themselves to Joseph's steward; and if possible make him their friend. So having called the man aside, they desired to speak with him on a subject of great importance; and one of them thus began: "O, Sir, we are indeed most unfortunate men, and every thing conspires to make us more wretched.

We came down to Egypt for the support of our families, and my Lord, that we were the same father, in the land, took us for spies, and laid us under restraint, and sent the rest home unclothed, and our younger brother with the sacks of corn, which we beheld! we found the corn, in the mouth of our sacks, and we did not know who put our money there, though we are really innocent. I left my Lord should do as those who have done before me." The steward having heard this, desired they would say, "For (saith he) I have seen you before, and as for that which you say, it must be money, which in some miraculous way, has given you this notice."